

APPROVED: Meeting No. 32-87

ATTEST:

Helen M. Heneghan

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

MEETING NO. 2-87

January 12, 1987

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in general session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, January 12, 1987, at 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Steven Van Grack

Councilman James F. Coyle

Councilman Douglas Duncan

Councilman Peter Hartogensis

ABSENT

Councilman Steve Abrams
(Business Travel)

The Mayor in the Chair.

In attendance: City Manager Richard V. Robinson, City Attorney Paul Glasgow, Assistant City Clerk Patricia A. Rager.

Re: Invocation

The invocation was given by Dr. James Coles, Principal of Wootton High School.

Re: City Manager's Report

Mr. Robinson reported the following:

1. An update was given on the progress of relocating the families that reside in the Red Barn. Eighteen families have received Section 8

Certificates and are being assisted with housing. The City is also working with the Rockville Housing Authority for possible placement.

2. Two public forums have been scheduled to receive citizen comments on the Rockville Police Department. The forums have been set for Saturday, February 7, 1987, at 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Lincoln Park Community Center and on Wednesday, February 18, 1987, at 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Center on Carnation Drive. All are welcomed to speak and all interested speakers are asked to call and register to speak with the City Clerk's office.

Re: Mayor's Report

1. Mayor Van Grack said he and the City Manager met with Governor-elect Schaefer this morning in Baltimore. They asked the governor-elect to give some assistance with the City's Town Center plan. He is looking forward to proceeding with the plan.

2. Mayor Van Grack has had the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Montgomery County NAACP and Roscoe Nix. They raised one question on the City's response to the Housing Study that was released in the fall.

3. The review of the report filed by the Election Task Force is moving rapidly. Another work session has been scheduled for Thursday.

4. The Mayor and Council held a meeting with civic association leaders last week. The Mayor felt it was a good meeting. Several suggestions were made, one being the distribution of the Welcome to Rockville Packet. It was suggested that this program be expanded by using the Department of Licenses and Inspections.

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The City staff presented its Trends and Conditions for Rockville at the meeting. The City has offered to bring it to other members of associations and also to business organizations in order for them to learn about the City.

5. Lastly, this past Thursday, the Mayor and Council met with the members of the Planning Commission to discuss several items. The two groups will be working together on the Rockville Pike Study.

Re: Resolution: Honoring
Blinder-Robinson for
contributions to City's
Holiday Food Program

Resolution No. 1-87

On motion of Councilman Coyle, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of those present, Resolution N. 1-87, honoring Blinder-Robinson for contributing to the City's holiday food program, the full text of which can be found in Resolution Book No. 8 of the Mayor and Council, was adopted.

Mayor Van Grack proceeded to issue the Resolution to Randy King and Mike Mercado, representatives from Blinder-Robinson. Mayor Van Grack thanked them for their support and generosity.

Mr. King explained that Blinder-Robinson does this type of program throughout the Country but this is their first time in Rockville as they are new to the area. Mr. Mercado thanked Manna Food for their help also.

Re: Presentation to Wootton
High School Girls
Volleyball Team - State
Champions

Mayor Van Grack presented certificates to the players, coach and managers of the Wootton High School Girls Volleyball team for their outstanding season:

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PlayersCoachManagers

Pam Bryan
 Jennifer Cichy
 Lisa Crawford
 Cathy Dick
 Daphne Gee
 Nikki Marks
 Kelly O'Brien
 Barbara Stross
 Beverly Stross
 Gretchen Stross

Mickey Lipman

Ann Anderson
 David Boesch
 Abby Mermelstein
 Laurie Rubel

The Mayor proceeded to present certificates to the following high school athletes for their individual honors:

Wootton High School

Daphne Gee - First Team All-County Volleyball
 Beverly Stross - First Team All-County Volleyball
 Nikki Marks - All-County Volleyball- Honorable Mention
 Arne Pike - Kicker - Second Team All-Met & First Team-All County Football
 Dan Cockerell - Running Back - First Team All-County Football

Richard Montgomery High School

Kelly Sanders - Punter - First Team All-Met & Second Team All-County Football
 Juston Martin - Defensive Back - First Team All-Met Football
 Jared Freeze - Defensive Line - First Team All-County & First Team All-Met Football
 Stephanie Bodison - First Team All-County Volleyball

Rockville High School

Laurie Clark - First Team All-Met Field Hockey
 Lorin Greber - Quarterback - Second Team All-County Football
 Gene Thomas - Wide Receiver - First Team All-County Football
 Kevin Andre - Kicker - Second Team All-County Football

Re: Appointments

The Mayor, with the concurrence of the Council, made the following appointments:

ACSC: Marilyn Freeland - reappoint to a two-year term
 Dorothy Ott - reappoint to a two-year term
 Leanne Mertz - appoint to a two-year term as a full member
 Sally Roy - reappointed to a two-year term
 Larry Chloupek - appointed to a two-year term as an alternate

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Board of Appeals: Patrick Woodward - reappoint to a three-year term

Cultural Arts Commission: Marilyn Scott - reappoint to a two-year term

Historic District Commission: Michael Patterson - reappoint to a three-year term
Sue Collette-Velasquez - Chairman - one-year term

Landlord/Tenant Affairs
Commission:

Marsha Meadows - appoint to full member - term
expires January, 1989

Suzanne Hurst - appoint three-year term as
Tenant Alternate

Joni Rainbolt - appoint three-year term as At-
Large Alternate

Senior Citizens Commission: Estelle Berberian - reappoint to a two-year term

Traffic & Transportation Commission: Robert Weirich - reappoint to a two-year term
William Meyers - appoint to a two-year term

Re: Citizen's Forum

The Mayor opened the meeting for those citizen's who wished to address
the Mayor and Council:

1. Carole Cohen, 100 Aberdeen Road. Mrs. Cohen said she is worried
about the police issue. She attended the work session and read the
consultant's report. She is worried that enough citizens will not speak
because it is a large document and is not easy to get a copy. She hopes that
between now and the forum more copies will be available. The report claims
that beyond surveys sent out it had citizen input during public sessions. She
said she was not aware of this and would like to know who had been contacted.
Mrs. Cohen reiterated her point of getting the information available to the
citizens by the first public forum. She also expressed interest about the
meeting with the County. She also said she was heartened by the Council's
comments made last week.

Mayor Van Grack said that the study was made available to all heads of civic associations. The City Manager said more copies of the report are being made and will be sent out this week. Copies will be available at City Hall and to the libraries.

Councilman Duncan felt the report should be sent to the civic association and that this seemed to be the best way to handle the distribution to the citizens.

Councilman Coyle noted that the second forum is a good five weeks away and that a third forum could be scheduled if needed.

Councilman Hartogensis noted that the media has done a good job publicizing this issue. The public is very much aware of this issue.

Councilman Duncan asked if there has been any response on the County meeting. The City Manager said no that the Mayor is making the response. Mayor Van Grack said he has talked with the County Executive and he has suggested that the City deal directly with the County Police Chief. Mayor Van Grack said he has not yet had an opportunity to call Chief Crooke. Councilman Duncan said he feels the City should have a formal request to the County Police in order to give them something to respond to. He asked that a letter be sent. Mr. Robinson said this was not his understanding of how this was to be handled. It was his feeling that an initial contact would be made to allow them to decide how they would like to meet. Mayor Van Grack said to let the County decide on how they would like to meet. It should be a meeting with County officials who set police policy making decisions. Mr. Robinson asked for some clarification if the Mayor and Council would like to meet with the

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policy makers for the County or the staff. Mayor Van Grack said he needs to get with them to see if and how they want to meet.

2. Charlotte Joseph, Montrose Civic Association President. Mrs. Joseph said she does not have a copy of the Rockville Pike report and cannot react to it. She hoped that in the future everyone will be able to get the City's report at the same time.

Mrs. Joseph next spoke on the Welcome to Rockville packet and said it should be information that is easy to get to as well as to understand. Even for those non-english speaking citizens. The information should be written in simple and easy English. She suggested the use of illustrations. She thought "Take a Closer Look at Your Government" was a good publication. She asked if it was still available. She also mentioned that the Civic Associations are not the only avenue for distributing packets. She felt it would be easier for rental units to have packets available in the rental office.

Mayor Van Grack said the Rockville Pike Plan is a document from the Planning Staff to the Planning Commission. Public hearings will be held on the plan and it will be passed on as requested. Mrs. Joseph mentioned that she has been at Montgomery County public hearings all day and got home and found her phone ringing off the hook with reporters asking her feeling on it. She could not give it because she has not seen the report. Councilman Coyle asked the past practice of distributing reports. Mr. Robinson said basically what the Mayor has said. It is a draft report from the staff to the Commission. Councilman Duncan said this is a report that was prepared by the Planning Commission. Mrs. Joseph makes a good point that the advisory commission should have received copies of the report. Mr. Richard Arkin,

Chairman of the Planning Commission addressed the Mayor and Council and noted that this is a preliminary staff report from the staff to the Commission. The Planning Commission has the report scheduled on its agenda for Wednesday night. The Commission will be taking its first look at it. It is a public document and will be available to the public. Councilman Duncan asked if copies will be sent to the Advisory Commission and Civic Associations. Mr. Arkin said copies can be made available to the public. Councilman Duncan said he would like copies sent to the members of the Rockville Pike Advisory Commission. Mr. Robinson said whatever is the pleasure of the Commission as he was told not to make copies available. Mr. Arkin said this will be discussed on Wednesday at the Planning Commission meeting.

3. Brigitta Mullican, President, Sister Cities Corporation. Mrs. Mullican spoke requesting that the new entrance signs that will be placed around the City include the working - "Sister City to Pinneberg". She noted that this has been a long standing request, originally from the Sister City Task Force and now from the Rockville Sister City Corporation. It is the feeling of the corporation that the new signs should recognize Rockville's relationship with Pinneberg, West Germany. It is her understanding that the current proposal from staff is for a simple sign that says "Welcome to Rockville". It can and should convey more than that.

Councilman Hartogensis said he had made this request several weeks ago under new business and strongly urges approval of this proposal especially since it is Rockville's 30th Anniversary year. He asked that staff come back with other possible designs. Councilman Coyle asked Mrs. Mullican how many signs are needed. Mrs. Mullican said she cannot see just asking for one.

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Councilman Coyle said this is a unique request and since staff is in the design stage he also asked them to take a look at other designs and options that are workable.

Mayor Van Grack said he supports strong ties with the City's Sister City, Pinneberg, West Germany. He did not agree with every sign having the Pinneberg recognition. He noted that there are many other organizations and civic groups such as the Rotary, Lions, etc. who want some recognition also. It seems difficult to decide who should get a spot. He felt that perhaps one or two of the signs could identify the sister city relationship. He does not feel all the entrance signs should have this identification. Mrs. Mullican said she has done a lot of calling to other organizations - the Civitans and Rotary. They do not consider the request by the Sister Cities Corporation as being the same request by their organization. For the few organizations reached, she has found no one not receptive to the idea.

Mayor Van Grack said he had received a letter from Sister Cities International and noted that there are larger cities that have only one sign noting the sister city relationship. Mrs. Mullican said she would like to see one sign welcoming but felt that the City would want to have some uniformity.

Councilman Coyle asked if this request has been made before other Mayor and Councils.

Mrs. Mullican said she got the impression that staff was not interested and that the signs were not being replaced. Then the Corporation heard that the signs are being replaced. Councilman Duncan said that the request has never been turned down. It was suggested that this request wait until the signs were replaced.

Councilman Coyle said that the City should be contacting other service clubs about this. Councilman Duncan said that this is a totally different issue.

Mayor Van Grack said there is a strong consensus this evening to have staff come back with some suggestions.

4. John Tyner, Vice President of the Twinbrook Citizens Association. Mr. Tyner said there is a situation in the community that shows the success of Metro. He asked that staff be asked to look at the Lewis Avenue and Holland Road stairwell that leads to Metro. The stairs are on City property but there is no illumination. An elderly person fell there last week. There is a Twinbrook Citizens Association meeting on the 27th of the month and he would like to hear back from the city by that time, if possible, on what action can be taken to get a light installed.

Mr. Tyner next spoke on behalf of the Independents for Rockville. He noted that a work session is scheduled for January 15 on the Election Task Force Report. He noted that a decision should be made as soon as possible on the report because it is important for the citizens to know the reporting procedures for the amount of money received, single registration etc. He said he does not want to get to the summer to find out what is going on.

Mayor Van Grack said that they Mayor and Council will stay on top of it.

5. David Kennedy, State Director for the Rockville Jaycees. Mr. Kennedy extended his appreciation to Rockville for their support to the Jaycees organization. He presented to the Mayor and Council the official Rockville Board Game prepared by and sold by the Rockville Jaycees. Anyone interested

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in purchasing a game may call 762-6090 or contact any member of the Rockville Jaycees. The game sells for \$15.

6. Edward Meyer. Mr. Meyer complimented the City staff for their efforts taken on December 26. After a long, four-day weekend a water main break occurred on Carter Road. Staff came out to stop the water and then worked for the next three hours to repair the line. He noted that when a call is made to Public Works at that time of night the call goes to the Police Department, then the Police call Public Works. Mr. Meyer suggested that there should be a policy that the police on call come out and assess the situation.

Mr. Robinson explained that when a call is received a clear description of the break is given to Public Works. They will make a decision from the home base. Councilman Coyle asked what the response time is. Chief Stout said if a call is received before 11 p.m. it takes about 20 minutes. If a call is received after 11 p.m. it may take an hour before a crew can be called. Councilman Hartogensis asked the Chief if the Public Works Supervisor is called immediately. The Chief said yes. Councilman Hartogensis said it seems to him that the system is working.

There being no further citizen wishing to address the Mayor and Council, the Citizen's Forum portion of the meeting was closed.

Re: Consent Agenda

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the next two items were approved under the consent agenda.

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Re: Approval of Storm
Water Management
Waiver #9-87, Church
Street at Hungerford
Drive (U-371-86)

This parcel of land containing approximately 0.7 acres in the Cabin John Drainage area is located at the intersection of Hungerford Drive and Church Street. The developer plans to build a nine story office building with six levels of underground parking.

There will be an additional 0.72 acres (0.54 acres on-site and 0.18 acres in the right of way) of imperviousness resulting from this development. The applicant is requesting a waiver because this site is in the Town Center zone where the use of on-site SWM facilities is discouraged and there is limited space available for on-site management.

The runoff from this site will be picked up by an existing storm drain system along Hungerford Drive and will be conveyed to the existing Mount Vernon SWM facility. The Mount Vernon facility will be able to provide storage for the additional runoff.

It is recommended that a waiver be granted and that a contribution of \$14,400 (0.720 acres at \$20,000 per acre) be accepted for the City's off-site SWM program.

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, a waiver for Storm Water Management was granted and a contribution of \$14,400 was accepted towards the City's off-site SWM program.

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Re: Approval of Storm
Water Management
Waiver #11-87,
Orchard Ridge Park

This is a 2.3 acre wooded parcel located on the southeast corner of Ritchie Parkway and Great Falls Road. The Department of Recreation and Parks is in the process of constructing a park with a bike path and basketball court.

The construction of the park will result in 0.26 acres of imperviousness from a bikeway and a basketball court. On-site methods of SWM were planned for this site and an infiltration trench designed. However, it was determined that the proposed improvements to the Great Falls Road and Ritchie Parkway intersection by the State Highway Administration would destroy the on-site facility. Another location for the SWM facility was considered. However, the other location could not accommodate a facility of the size necessary and the facility would adversely impact the recreational facilities.

Runoff from the site is conveyed by enclosed storm drains from Ritchie Parkway to the Horizon Hills #1 SWM facility. The Horizon Hills #1 facility will provide storage for the additional runoff.

It is recommended that a waiver be granted and that a contribution of \$4,200 (0.26 acres at \$20,000 per acre) be accepted for the City off-site Storm Water Management Program.

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, a waiver was granted and a contribution of \$4,200 was accepted toward the City's off-site Storm Water Management Program.

Mayor Van Grack asked if at this time Agenda Item No. 7, Discussion of the City position on proposed incinerator at Shady Grove, be moved forward on

the agenda for action. Hearing no objection, Agenda Item No. 7 was moved forward.

Re: Discussion of City
position on proposed
incinerator at Shady
Grove

A copy of the proposed statement for presentation at the January 20 public hearing before the County Executive on the siting of a mass burn solid waste facility in Dickerson was given to the Mayor and Council for their approval. This statement makes it clear that the City remains firmly against any reconsideration of this location.

On motion of Councilman Duncan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the statement on the siting of a mass burn solid waste facility in Dickerson was approved by the Mayor and Council. A decision on who will present the City's statement will be given by either staff or a member of Mayor and Council at a later date.

Re: Board of Appeals
Annual Report

Mayor Van Grack asked Mr. Puckett if he would consider remaining on the Board until after the February meeting as there are a lot of concerns the Board needs to address. Mr. Puckett said that was no problem.

Karen Lechter, Chairman of the Board of Appeals addressed the Mayor and Council to present the 1986 Annual Report of the Board. She introduced her fellow board members - Patrick Woodward, Jeryl Gegan and Robert Puckett.

She thanked the staff that has worked with the Board over the past 12 months, most especially Kathy Mitchell and Alice Cronin. She noted how members are disappointed when the primary staff leaves the City to go to work

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for the County. Fortunately, Larry Owens and Lisa Wogan were available to take over and the Board looks forward to working closely with them.

She requested that the Mayor and Council continue to have the City pay dues for its board members to be associated with planning organizations.

She noted that the Board held public hearings on thirty-two variances, thirteen special exceptions and three appeals from administrative decisions. The number of meetings held by the Board dropped from 18 in the last reporting period to 14 in 1986. In addition to its regular meetings in 1986, members of the Board participated in a special Saturday seminar arranged by the City to acquaint members of the Board, the Planning Commission, and the Historic District Commission with information designed to assist in the conduct of meetings and deliberations. All who attended found this to be very helpful.

She thanked outgoing member Bob Puckett for his time and services to the Board. She noted that Mr. Puckett was a very valuable member to the Board.

Councilman Hartogensis said this is a most professional report that the Mayor and Council has received.

Patrick Woodward next addressed the Mayor and Council concerning nonconforming uses and recording equipment.

In its last Annual Report, the Board requested that suitable recording equipment be purchased for use by the Board. Since that time, several different systems have been used, but none of them has been totally satisfactory. The Board requests that the City make an investment in suitable equipment which will produce high quality recordings of its sessions for the benefit of the staff and the public.

He noted that last year the board requested that the City's policy on nonconforming uses be reviewed. He explained that at present, a property with a nonconforming use can be sold; and the use can be continued without City review if the use is replaced by a similar use within three months. Problems can be expected to rise in the future as to what constitutes a "similar use." A non-conforming use is not defined in the Zoning and Planning Ordinance.

Mayor Van Grack asked that the Board of Appeals present the Mayor and Council with a way to handle this. Mr. Woodward said the Board could make suggestions but since it is a quasi judicial board, he is not sure how involved they can get in a policy making decision. Councilman Hartogensis said that when he served on the Board of Appeals, Special Exceptions were granted only to the applicant. He asked if that is still the policy. Mr. Woodward said that is still in effect but that only deals with special exceptions. It may be that a special exception is not needed. It is something that the Board of Appeals will not deal with but can see it as being a problem. Councilman Hartogensis asked the City Attorney for his thoughts. Mr. Glasgow said that his office had prepared a memo a while ago and will get back to the Mayor and Council and Board of Appeals with their finding.

Councilman Hartogensis noted that all meetings are recorded and that the recording equipment in the past has been make shift. He noted that the Board has made this request last year and it would help with cases going to court.

On a third matter, Mr. Woodward brought to the attention of the Mayor and Council the temperature control in the Council Chamber on Saturday. The temperature is set at 62 degrees and locked. When the blowers came on they were so loud that you could not hear the person speaking. He asked that on

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the weekends that the Board meets that the temperature be set at a comfortable level.

Mr. Woodward made the annual request for an increase in the Boards salary. Mayor Van Grack said he knows that a tremendous amount of hours are spent by the Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission. He asked Mr. Woodward if he could make a guess at how much time is actually spent. Mr. Woodward said that for the Board of Appeals one Saturday a month is required, for 11 months, and about four to five hours a Saturday. He guessed close to 150 hours are invested per year by one board member. Councilman Hartogensis said that in 1983 he made a request to provide the board members with an honorarium. The feeling he got from the Board members at that time was that such a proposal would harm volunteerism in Rockville, so he withdrew his request. Mr. Woodward said the Board still feels that it is an honor to serve and felt that the money could be spent in a better way.

Councilman Hartogensis asked if the stenographer who records the Mayor and Council public hearings could be used to record the Board of Appeal meetings on Saturdays. The City Manager said that he will get back with more information on that. Councilman Duncan noted that the person who does the Mayor and Council's public hearings brings their own portable system.

Robert Puckett suggested that the agendas and the action be printed in the City paper. He said he understood the timing of the paper and the length of the agenda are a problem but should be addressed.

Mayor Van Grack said that he does not want to control what goes into the Rockville Reports. He suggested to Mr. Puckett that he bring this up with the editor of Rockville Reports. Councilman Hartogensis mentioned that there are

22 boards and commissions and that could get lengthy. Councilman Coyle suggested having the media get involved in the publication of agendas. Councilman Hartogensis noted that the Gazette is doing that now. Councilman Coyle noticed that the papers carry the crime report and questioned why they could not carry the agenda for the Board of Appeals.

Mr. Puckett next noted that the Board members are required to inspect the property or go on private property. He noted that none of the members have any means of identifying themselves as members of the Board of Appeals. He suggested some type of identification be made available for them to carry. Councilman Hartognesis noted that when he and Mrs. Lechter served together a letter was issued to the board members. Mrs. Lechter said that the letter has not been issued for eight years. She noted that the County Board of Appeals issues cards with the County ensignia. Councilman Duncan said he would support that idea but in the past business cards were requested and an identification card sounds like a good idea. The City Manager said he will have staff look into it.

Jeryl Gegan noted that the Board of Appeals is a microcosms of the City as a whole and have always had good staff people and other jurisdictions know that too as they have taken staff away and paying them double what the City is paying. He said he does not want to loose the new staff.

Mr. Gegan next proposed that a meeting between the Board of Appeals, Planning Commission and staff that supports both commissions get together to talk over different items and to give everyone a good understanding of the special exception and variance processes and clarify the functions of each of the parties involved in these processes.

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Councilman Hartogensis noted that two years ago the City conducted a review of the pay scale of all city employees called the Hay Study. The Hay Study has been completed and implemented and hopefully it will be able to accomplish what Mr. Gegan suggested as to more competitive pay for employees.

Councilman Coyle noted that the Board of Appeals get into the "stickest" of all matters and the fact that no appeal was made to any decision speaks for itself.

Mayor Van Grack thanked the Board of Appeals for their report and noted the good job that has been done.

Re: New Business

1. Councilman Coyle told the City Manager he had hoped to get a status report on the Housing Rental Survey. He asked the status of the report. The City Manager said he will get back to Councilman Coyle on this matter.

2. Councilman Coyle asked for a status of the enforcement of truck parking in the City. Mr. Robinson noted that he has met with two people and citations were issued over the weekend. Chief Stout further added that he has on file 20 applications and that two are coming up for public hearing.

Councilman Coyle asked if flat bed trucks violate the regulations. Chief Stout said on the street, yes; but if they are parked behind the setback line of private property, no. Councilman Coyle asked about the width requirement. He said he has noticed a lot around the City on streets. Chief Stout said some of those may have temporary permits. Councilman Duncan said he thought that flat bed tow trucks had been banned with the new ordinance. Mr. Robinson noted that staff first recommended this after meeting with all concerned.

Councilman Duncan said he would like to review flatbeds. It was his feeling that flat beds were addressed.

Councilman Coyle asked if and when the review of campers and trailers was going to be addressed. Councilman Duncan noted that a memo from staff had been received at one time. Councilman Coyle said he remembers discussing this issue during review of the truck ordinance and that it was decided to discuss this at a later time. Councilman Duncan asked that the staff's memo be brought back for review. Mayor Van Grack agreed and also asked that this issue be raised at the same time discussions are held on flatbeds. Mr. Robinson reminded the Council that the truck ordinance has only been in enforcement since January 1. Councilman Duncan asked that the issue of recreation vehicles be looked at.

3. Councilman Coyle brought before the Council the possibility of codifying the City's fire code with the County's. He also suggested the City address sprinklers in residential houses. The Fire Marshall has expressed interest in coming before the Mayor and Council to discuss sprinklers in residential townhouses. He noted that this is all part of the County's Life Safety Code. He said it is very important to take a look at their code. He asked the Mayor and Council to consider getting some presentation from the County.

Mayor Van Grack and the Council agreed this was a good idea. Mayor Van Grack noted that if Mr. Abrams was here he would concur.

4. Councilman Coyle asked if it would be appropriate at this time for the Mayor and Council to discuss the "Monorail System". He noted that the City has to apply for a grant and that it is his understanding that the

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application needs to come before the Mayor and Council. Mr. Robinson said he is not sure of procedure. It could be brought before the Mayor and Council and shared. Councilman Coyle said he would like to discuss the policy. Mayor Van Grack asked the rest of the Council their feeling on discussing the proposal for the monorail system now. He said he is getting from Councilman Coyle that he is not wanting it and noted that staff is currently in the process of applying for the grant. Councilman Coyle said this issue needs to be discussed as a whole issue before the application is made. Mayor Van Grack said the Mayor and Council should get some background information on this in order to discuss it in more detail. Mr. Robinson said he will get the application to the Mayor and Council with more information on the feasibility study in order to allow the Mayor and Council to decide on the filing for a grant.

5. Councilman Hartogensis asked for a status report on District Court Parking. He noted that he has not received anything since their opening. Mr. Robinson said he will get back to the Mayor and Council at the next meeting with some information since it has been only been in operation since January 1.

6. Councilman Duncan asked to get an update on the status of archives and what is being done and has not been done. He would like to see the staff's report on this issue. Mr. Robinson said he will get a status report for the Council for either the next meeting or for his Various Items Memo.

7. Councilman Duncan noted that there is one planning issue left over from last year and asked that a work session date be set in order to get the Westmont Concept plan resolved. He suggested a date in early February. Councilman Coyle said this is a good idea. Mr. Robinson asked if the Mayor

and Council would like to schedule this for a saturday morning. Mayor Van Grack said the work session on the concept plan should be a lengthy meeting and may take more than an hour. He asked that it be scheduled in mid-February. Mr. Robinson noted that February 2 is an open date and nothing has been scheduled as of now. Mayor Van Grack asked that it be schedule for a weekday night by mid-February.

8. Councilman Duncan said he had been requested from the Gazette and Journal that they be given copies of Various Items minus any confidential items. He noted that past policy has been to give the press FYI and Correspondence. He asked that the Various Items memo be broken into confidential and nonconfidential items. Mayor Van Grack asked that from now own copies be made available. In the future, it is a good policy to follow to have items available to the press.

Re: Approval of Minutes

On motion of Councilman Hartognesis, duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote of all present, the Minutes of Meeting No. 37-86, September 22, 1986, were approved as amended.

Re: Correspondence

The Mayor and Council noted the following items of correspondence:

1. Letter from Joseph A. Lynott with attachment from Mike Ebrahimi outlining Martin's Lane residents' views on requests made by the Mayor and Council at public hearing RTH-6-86
2. Letter from Charles L. Short, Director, Montgomery County Government, Department of Family Resources, responding to note received from Rusty Wallace, Supervisor, Youth Services Division, Department of Community Services.

Councilman Coyle noted that in the last Various Items Memo correspondence has been received from Bill Hickman regarding Christmas decorations in the

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City. Councilman Coyle said he likes the ideas Mr. Hickman mentions and suggested that maybe the business community could help. Councilman Hartogensis said it was his feeling that the Chamber of Commerce would go 50/50 with the cost. Councilman Duncan said a few years ago the Chamber gave money to the City for decorations and the City took money and picked out the decorations without any Chamber input.

Councilman Coyle noted that a letter has been received from Carlos Caban regarding his resignation from the Planning Commission. Mayor Van Grack asked that Dr. Caban be asked to attend a future Mayor and Council meeting in order to receive recognition for his 10 years of service to the Planning Commission.

Councilman Coyle thanked the staff for their work on trying resolve the complaint that has been made about 414 Ritchie Parkway.

Councilman Coyle thanked the staff for all their work on the Strategic Management Plan. He congratulated them on a very professional job well done.

Re: Information Items

The Mayor and Council noted the following items of information:

1. Memo from the City Manager to the Mayor and Council regarding Sister City signs

Re: Executive Session

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council in general session, the meeting was closed at 10:20 p.m. for executive session in order to consult with legal counsel.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council in executive session the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m. to convene again in

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work session on Thursday, January 15, 1987, or at the call of the Mayor.